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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

MAR 14 2002

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In re patent application of: )  
Mulrooney et al. ) Before the Examiner  
Serial No. 09/646,939 ) Chunduru  
Filed September 20, 2000 )  
AMPLIFICATION OF NUCLEIC ACIDS ) Group Art Unit  
US National Stage of PCT/GB99/00929 ) 1656  
International Filing Date March 24, 1999 ) February 25, 2002

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231 on February 25 2002

James B. Myers, Jr.

Name of Registered Representative

James B. Myers Jr.  
Signature

February 25 2002  
Date of Signature

**RESPONSE TO FIRST OFFICE ACTION UNDER 37 CFR §1.111**

Hon. Assistant Commissioner of Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated September 25, 2001 (paper number 9), Applicants respectfully request entry of the following amendments and consideration of the accompanying remarks. Applicants filed concurrent with this response a request for two months Extension of Time. Additionally, please provide any further Extensions of Time that maybe necessary and charge any fees which may be due to Deposit Account No. 23-3030 but do not include any payment of issue fees that are or may become due.

**AMENDMENTS**

Please amend the following claims:

2. (Twice Amended) A method as claim 1 wherein the complementary first and second nucleic acid sequences are generated *in situ* from a single stranded nucleic acid molecule.

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